



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

22 NOVEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Dublin – Doctor Convicted for Running Opioid Pill Mill Out of Several Sites

(U) The Eastern District of California convicted a doctor, Edmund Kemprud, for illegally issuing hundreds of opioids and other drug prescriptions at several Bay Area and Central Valley locations, including in the back room of a nail salon. Kemprud charged \$79 per visit and gave out prescriptions so quickly he would see at least 30 patients in a day. Undercover officers testified that between 6 September 2018 and 13 March 2019, Kemprud prescribed opioids on 14 occasions without determining the patients' medical and prescription histories, without conducting a proper medical examination, without confirming the legitimacy of the patients' complaints, and without assessing the risk of aberrant drug behavior.

SOURCE: 19 November 2021, [RecordNet](#)

(U) San Bernardino – Man Who Used Bitcoin to Launder \$13 Million Given Three-Year Jail Sentence

(U) Hugo Mejia, 50, was sentenced to three-years in prison on Thursday after pleading guilty in July to operating an unlicensed money transmitting business and money laundering. Mejia set up an unlicensed cryptocurrency exchange business that exchanged at least \$13 million in bitcoin and cash, often for drug traffickers. The Attorney's Office press release stated that a client working with law enforcement met Mejia multiple times between May 2019 and March 2020 to exchange bitcoin for cash. The client and Mejia traded more than \$250,000 worth of bitcoin and cash over five meetings.

SOURCE: 21 November 2021, [Business Insider](#)

(U) San Jose – Ex-College Professor Charged with Starting Four California Wildfires

(U) A federal grand jury indicted Gary Stephen Maynard, a former college professor, for allegedly starting four wildfires in Northern California earlier this year that threatened to trap firefighters as they battled a massive fire nearby. According to court documents, Maynard's alleged arson spree included blazes he started in July and August behind crews fighting the Dixie Fire, which became the second biggest wildfire in California history. US Forest Service agents began investigating Maynard on 20 July after the Cascade Fire was reported on the western slopes of Mount Shasta.

SOURCE: 19 November 2021, [FOX News](#)

(U) Walnut Creek – Three Arrested After Organized Store Theft Involving More Than 80 People

(U) The police department for the city of Walnut Creek said that about 80 people entered the Broadway Plaza Nordstrom store before 9 PM Saturday and immediately began stealing merchandise in what it described as an organized theft. Officers on arrival stopped a car at the scene, arresting two people, one of whom possessed a firearm. Police also arrested a third person nearby in possession of stolen Nordstrom property. The remaining participants in the mob fled from the area in cars at high speeds. The department's investigators are processing surveillance footage to identify other suspects responsible for the criminal activity. Out of caution, police have notified other businesses in the area and encouraged them to prepare for additional activities.

SOURCE: 21 November 2021, [UPI](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Large Seizure of Methamphetamine and Fentanyl at US Border

(U) Otay Mesa – The Southern District of California announced drug charges against a Mexican citizen for trafficking 17,500-pounds of methamphetamine and nearly 400-pounds of fentanyl. On 18 November 2021, Carlos Martin Quintana-Arias, a Mexican citizen, applied for entry into the United States as the driver and sole occupant of a tractor-trailer. Quintana-Arias' manifest reflected that the trailer contained automotive parts. However, an X-Ray machine detected anomalies inside the trailer, and a drug detection dog alerted authorities to the trailer's rear door. Further inspection of the trailer's contents revealed a few automotive body parts among 6,266 packages of drugs.

SOURCE: 19 November 2021, [US DOJ](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Georgia – Millions of Dollars, Several Firearms, and Drugs Seized in Multi-Agency Investigation

(U) Athens – An FBI Gang Task Force seized more than a million dollars, sixty firearms, and countless drugs during a multi-agency operation in Athens-Clarke County. In May, authorities launched an initiative to target a slew of crimes and potential gang activity across Metro Atlanta. The seven-month-long investigation into the 1831 Piru criminal street gang has led to authorities charging at least 37 people with illegal activity. A US Attorney expects that more arrests and charges are forthcoming as the investigation continues.

SOURCE: 19 November 2021, [CBS46](#)

(U) Georgia – Man Escapes from Airport After Accidentally Discharging Firearm

(U) Atlanta – Kenny Wells, 42, a convicted felon, is being sought on charges including carrying a concealed weapon at a commercial airport, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, discharging a firearm, and reckless conduct. At Atlanta Airport's main security checkpoint, Wells reached into his bag while awaiting a search and grabbed a firearm that Police believe Wells accidentally discharged. The shot caused chaos among travelers and halted airport activity. Wells ran with the gun from the checkpoint and escaped out an airport exit, the Transportation Security Administration said.

SOURCE: 22 November 2021, [The Guardian](#)

(U) Oregon – Police Seize 250-Tons of Illegal Marijuana Near California-Oregon border

(U) White City – The Oregon State Police announced that its Southwest Region Drug Enforcement team served a search warrant and seized 250-tons of illegal marijuana from several industrial warehouses in White City. Police found more than 100 people working at the warehouses, including several migrant workers living in poor conditions without running water, as well as what the police called an “epic amount of illegal, processed marijuana.” The drug enforcement team estimated that approximately 500,000-pounds of cannabis were found, as well as a firearm. The Oregon State Police said the marijuana had an estimated street value of around \$500 million.

SOURCE: 22 November 2021, [KRCRTV](#)

(U) Wisconsin – Five Dead, 40 Injured After SUV Hits People at Christmas Parade

(U) Waukesha – Five people were killed and more than 40 injured when an SUV sped through a Christmas parade in the small town of Waukesha, Wisconsin, plowing into dozens of people, including young children. The Waukesha Police Chief told reporters that one person was in custody and a vehicle had been recovered after the incident in the town 20 miles west of Milwaukee. The Police Chief said it was not clear whether the incident was terrorist in nature but that there was no further danger, and

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police had lifted an order urging people to shelter.

SOURCE: 22 November 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Appears Present in Every Province of Afghanistan

(U) Kabul – The United Nations (UN) envoy for Afghanistan announced that the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) has expanded to every province of the nation. The UN envoy believes that the country is on the brink of a humanitarian catastrophe as ISIS, a formidable enemy of the Taliban, is making a power grab in the embattled nation. The UN envoy to Afghanistan announced at a press conference that the Taliban has been unable to confine the spread of its ideological enemies in Afghanistan. ISIS attacks have dramatically increased this year, reaching 334 compared to only 60 strikes from ISIS in 2020.

SOURCE: 19 November 2021, [KPIC](#)

(U) Bahrain – Security Forces Foil Planned Attack, Confiscate Iranian Weapons and Explosives

(U) Manama – A ministry official announced that Bahrain security forces arrested several suspected militants ahead of a planned attack and confiscated weapons and explosives from Iran. The ministry did not say how many people were detained or specify their nationalities. It described them as "linked with terrorist groups in Iran" and said they were "plotting terrorist operations against security and civil peace." The host to the US Navy's Fifth Fleet and other international naval operations, Bahrain has often accused Shi'ite Muslim Iran of seeking to subvert the Sunni-ruled kingdom, which has a Shi'ite majority.

SOURCE: 22 November 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Israel – Hamas Gunman Kills One, Injures Four in Jerusalem's Old City

(U) Jerusalem – On Sunday, a Hamas gunman shot five people in Jerusalem's Old City, killing one and injuring four others before Israeli police fatally shot him. Police identified the shooter as a 42-year-old Palestinian from East Jerusalem, and Hamas later identified him as Fadi Abu Shkhaidem, a teacher at a nearby high school. The attack also wounded two Israeli police officers and another civilian. The shooting occurred near one of the gates to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, a controversial holy site that the Jewish people know as the Temple Mount and Muslims call the Noble Sanctuary. Authorities have not yet determined if the gunman acted alone or on orders from the group.

SOURCE: 21 November 2021, [FOX News](#)

(U) Netherlands – Prime Minister Calls Out Rioters Following Third Night of Violence

(U) Amsterdam – This weekend, the Dutch Prime Minister spoke out against rioters who rampaged through cities across the Netherlands when protests against COVID-19 policies turned violent. Police arrested more than 100 people during three nights of violence, which saw police open fire at rioters in Rotterdam on Friday. The violence began in Rotterdam on Friday night as a protest against government plans to ban most people who have not been vaccinated from public places quickly turned violent. Around 30 people were arrested on Sunday, following dozens of arrests on the previous two days, as mobs of angry youths set fires and threw rocks. Black-clad groups pelted police vans with stones, and in The Hague, a rock was thrown through the windshield of an ambulance trying to take a patient to the hospital.

SOURCE: 22 November 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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